

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims replaces the listings of the claims in the present patent application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** An audio playback device interface for interface with an audio headset, said interface comprising a load in series between an audio output of a stereo headset driver of an audio playback device and a ground, wherein the load is configured to prevent the audio output from directly contacting a ground when a mono headset plug is inserted into the stereo headset driver of the audio playback device.
2. **(Original)** The audio playback device interface of claim 1 further comprising a second load equal to said first load, said second load in series between a second audio output of a stereo headset driver and a headset jack of an audio playback device.
3. **(Currently Amended)** An audio playback device comprising:
  - a stereo headset driver for amplifying a first and a second audio signal to a headset;
  - a headset jack for contacting a headset plug in communication with a headset, said headset jack in communication with output from said stereo headset driver; and
  - a load between said headset jack and a first audio output from said stereo headset driver for preventing a first audio output from contacting a ground when a mono headset plug is inserted into the stereo headset driver of the audio playback device.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The audio playback device of claim 3 wherein said load comprises a resistance in series between a first audio output from said stereo headset driver and ~~[[a]]~~ the ground.

5. **(Original)** The audio playback device of claim 3 further comprising a second load between said headset jack and a second audio output from said stereo headset driver.

6. **(Original)** The audio playback device of claim 5 wherein the resistance of said second load is equal to the resistance of said first load.

7. **(Original)** The audio playback device of claim 5 wherein said second load comprises a resistance in series between a second audio output from said stereo headset driver and said headset jack.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A mobile communication device comprising:

a stereo headset driver for amplifying a first and a second audio signal to a headset;

a headset jack for contacting a headset plug in communication with a headset, said headset jack in communication with output from said stereo headset driver; and

a load between said headset jack and a first audio output from said stereo headset driver for preventing a first audio output from contacting a ground when a mono headset plug is inserted into the stereo headset driver of mobile communication device.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method of making a stereo audio playback device compatible with stereo and mono headsets comprising:

providing a headset driver for the audio playback device for amplifying a first and a second audio signal to a headset; and

placing a load on a first audio output from the headset driver to prevent a first audio output from contacting a ground on a headset plug when a mono headset plug is inserted into the headset driver of the audio playback device.

10. **(Original)** The method of claim 9 wherein placing a load on a first audio output comprises placing a resistance in series between a first audio output from the stereo headset driver and a ground.

11. **(Original)** The method of claim 9 further comprising placing a load between a second audio output from the headset driver and a headset jack of the audio playback device.

12. **(Original)** The method of claim 11 wherein placing a load on a second audio output comprises placing a resistance in series between a second audio output from the stereo headset driver and a headset jack.

13. **(Original)** The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of matching the values of the two loads.

14. **(New)** The audio playback device interface of claim 4 wherein said resistance is equal to or greater than a minimum impedance or resistance which said headset driver is configured to drive.

15. **(New)** The method of claim 10 wherein said resistance is equal to or greater than a minimum impedance or resistance which said headset driver is configured to drive.